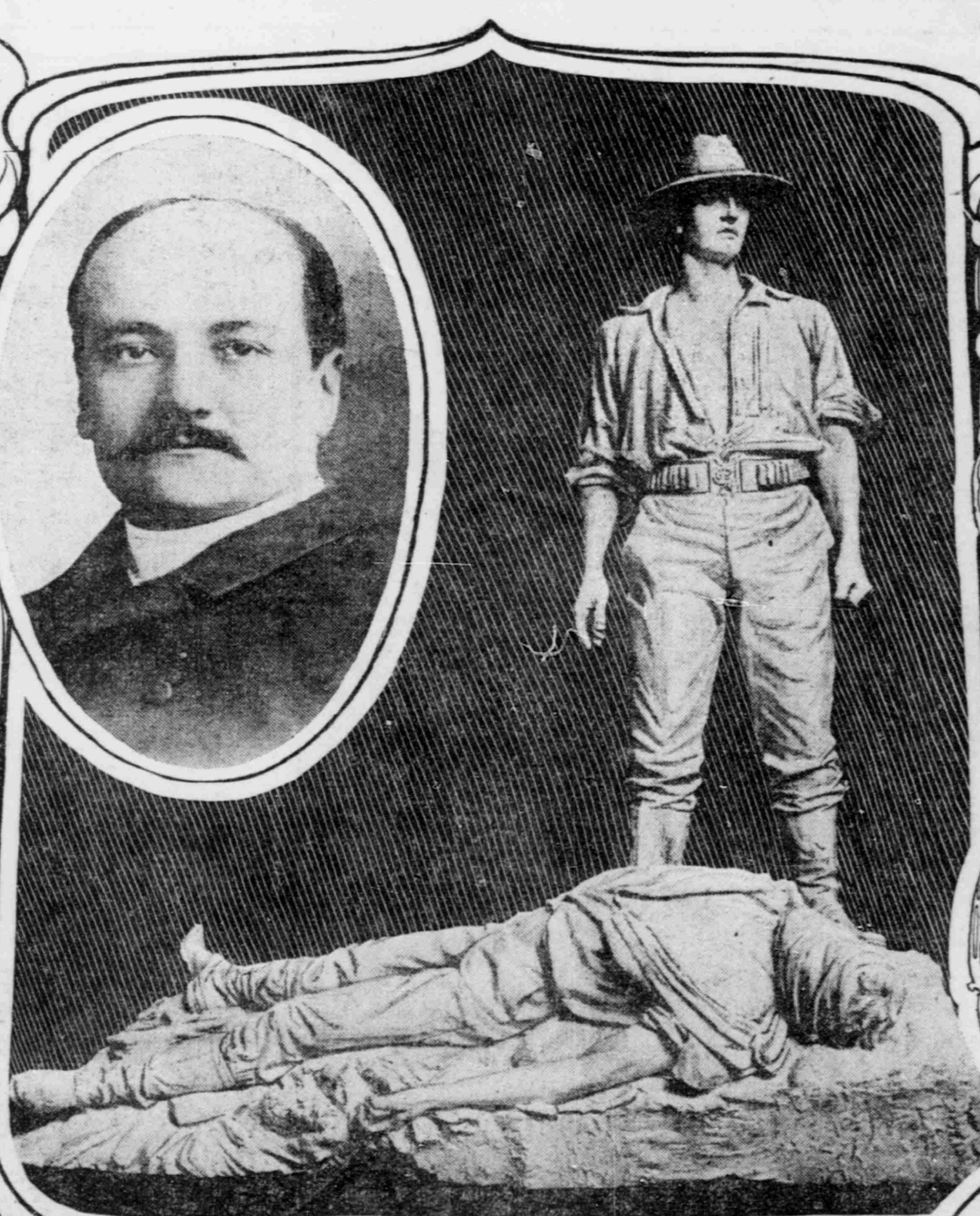


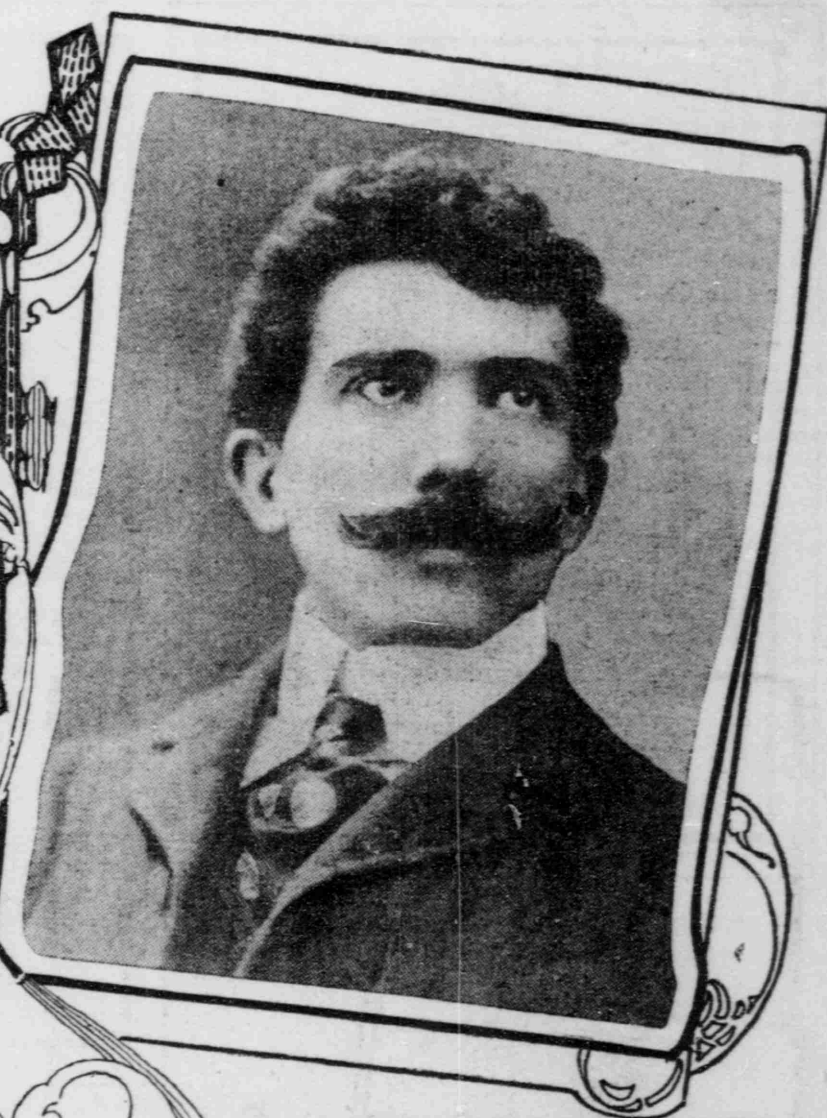
# WASHINGTON SCULPTORS AND THEIR WORK IN MARBLE



MISS WILSON.



"AT EL CANEY," BY LOUIS AMATEIS.



ADOLPH DE NESTI.

## Men and Women Artists of the Capital Few in Number, but Highly Gifted in Using Chisels and Modeling Tools.

ALTHOUGH Washington is not considered an art center, yet in it reside men and women highly gifted in the use of the brush, chisel, and modeling tools. The sculptors here are few, but this class of artists is small in any city. Not one of this group is a born resident of the National Capital, having some from some other section of this country and some from abroad. This seems to bear out the adage that one must leave one's native home to be appreciated.

Few of the monuments and statues and adorn our parks are the work of local sculptors. The Hancock statue, at Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, was done by Mr. Ellicott, of this city, who died more than a year ago; and that of Lincoln, in front of the City Hall, was made by Flannery Brothers, of Washington.

Half a century ago William A. Griffith was a prominent sculptor here. He has left his art in the Washington Monument on the stone presented by the Firemen's Association of Baltimore, and in many of the local cemeteries. He also repaired the broken finger of one of the figures of the group on the east front of the Capitol. So delicately and skillfully was this executed that the repairing cannot be detected.

### Talents and Ambitions Vary.

The sculptors of Washington today vary in their talents and ambitions. Emil Jaret confines himself to architectural modeling and makes a specialty of death masks. He has made the masks of Admiral Sampson, Judge Davis, General Garcia, Judge Old, and Lord Pauncefoot. His method of doing this work is unlike that of others, as he takes the entire head, making the model more complete.

### James F. Earley.

Although residing in the National Capital, James F. Earley can point to almost every State in the Union where he has left an impress of his sculptural art. He is a busy man at all times, either planning designs or chiseling or modeling some intricate relief. He is equally at home with marble, bronze, or brass, and he is especially partial to architectural work for church decoration.

The Franciscan Monastery of Brookland stands as a monument to his art. For this Mr. Earley received a medal of honor from the Pope—the only honor of its kind ever conferred in America. He is identified with the Evening Star Building and with the ornamenting of many of the local churches. He contributed to the Omaha and Buffalo exhibitions. At present he is at work on a large marble altar for St. Vincent's Orphanage and is designing altars and pulpits for local Catholic churches.

### Work of Cosmopolitan Character.

To enumerate Mr. Earley's work in this country would be an arduous task. Public buildings, churches, monuments, and private houses testify to the cosmopolitan character of the work. The Philadelphia mint, the postoffices of Stockton,

BUST BY  
ULRICH DUNBAR.

## Prof. Louis Amateis' Buffalo Exposition Success, "El Caney," Was Inspired by a Pathetic Incident of the Late Spanish-American War.

Omaha, and Annapolis are some of his work. Although born abroad, Mr. Earley came to this country when young; and so thoroughly an American is he that he wishes to associate his art with the country of his adoption. His reproductions are of such a "speaking likeness" that it may well be said that he is a linguist with the pencil and modeling tools.

"You must be thoroughly familiar with your subject," he said, "before even attempting your design. That done you must consider what style of architecture and what material is best suited to your design and its use. I am an advocate of American art. We are just as artistic as the sculptors abroad, and we can do just as fine work. I sometimes seem brutally blunt in my remarks, but I mean to be so honest in my criticism that I say what I think."

### Adolph De Nesti.

One of the recent sculptors in Washington is Adolph De Nesti, who has been but a year in this country. He is from Florence, Italy, where he was a pupil of Prof. Rivalta. After graduating from the Academy of Fine Arts there he traveled over the Continent to further perfect his art, studying chiefly in Rome and Paris. His figure of "Il Giott" will be remembered by those who visited the World's Fair at Chicago. In Italy he has done considerable work, some of his figures being Mephistopheles and the two Italian sculptors—Bevenuto Collino and Lorenzo Ghiberti. During his short stay in Washington Mr. De Nesti has made three busts of Mr. Easton, a bust of Mr. Schroeder, one of Lillian Lawrence, and an ideal figure of the "Dream of Love." The last was exhibited in the Corcoran Art Gallery. He is at present working on a bust of Senator Clark of Montana.

Mr. De Nesti is young, and his work displays all the temperament of the Italian school. Though he has been but a short time in America, he can converse intelligently in English and is well acquainted in art circles.

### Miss M. B. Wilson.

A young lady who is lending her efforts to advance American sculpture is Miss M. B. Wilson of Ohio. She comes

here from New York, where she has been executing her art for the past three years. She is a pupil of Rodan, of Paris. Heroic characters appeal more to Miss Wilson, and she is making a particular study of American historical art.

"Personally, I do not care for relief or ornamental work," she said. "To me it seems but half of the art. Of course, it is difficult, artistic, and absolutely essential, but I prefer the full figure."

Her latest creation, "The Minute Man," was exhibited in the Corcoran Art Gallery. She is at present working on a bust of the late Mrs. G. Hoffman, of New York. Among her figures may be mentioned "The Volunteer," "The American Polo Player," and "The Bear and Bull of Wall Street."

Miss Wilson was the only woman competitor for the Grant Monument, and, although she was not successful, her model was considered one of thought and unique design. Even during her short stay in the National Capital Miss Wilson has become closely identified with Washington artists, who have at once recognized her capabilities.

### Louis Amateis.

A native of Turin, Italy, and a resident of the United States since 1882, is Prof. Louis Amateis. His studio is one of intense interest, being adorned with busts of prominent personages, bas-reliefs of ideal subjects, life-size figures, and pictures of his work in various parts of the country. Prof. Amateis will be remembered as making the Christian Heurich mausoleum at Hyattsville, Md., and for "El Caney" at the Buffalo Exposition.

His "El Caney" was inspired by the following newspaper paragraph from Capt. James F. J. Archibald, a war correspondent, then at the front in Cuba:

"The breathing became weaker and weaker, and at last the end came. The soldier then gently laid his head down and covered it with a handkerchief."

"Know him?" I asked. "My brother," he calmly said, and he slowly got up, filled his lungs with one deep sigh, and gazed up to the hills for

a moment with a faraway, thoughtful look. I could see that he was looking straight into some home and wondering what mother would think."

He is at present making a life-size sitting statue of the late Henry Rosenberg, of Galveston, Tex., where Mr. Rosenberg did much philanthropic work. A few years ago Prof. Amateis was the successful competitor for the Galveston monument erected to the memory of the heroes of the Mexican war. He entered the competition for the Grant statue, and while his model was not accepted it was highly recommended for its originality and strategic sentiment. In fact, Prof. Amateis' work was the cause of the committee entrusted with the selection of a design withholding its decision for two days. The members favorable to his work were outvoted, however.

When asked whether he preferred working in marble or bronze for figures, Prof. Amateis replied: "That depends upon the subject in hand. For outside work bronze is preferable, but for portraiture better effects can be secured in marble. The translucency and whiteness of the material assist in bringing

out the delicate expression of the figure."

### Ulrich S. J. Dunbar.

The sculptural work of Ulrich S. J. Dunbar is known in every quarter of the National Capital. In the Senate are the busts of Van Buren and Hendricks; in the Corcoran Art Gallery is one of W. W. Corcoran; and there are many figures and busts in cemeteries and private homes. His bust of Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell and the monument to William R. Singleton are some of his recent work. At present he is modeling the figures for the drinking fountain to be placed at Chesapeake Beach.



JAMES F. EARLEY.



MR. EARLEY'S ST. PAUL.

## Vary in Their Talents and Ambitions, One Making a Specialty of Death Masks Produced by Original Method.

Among the women sculptors of Washington Miss Edith Ogden, teacher of sculpture at the Corcoran Art School, should be mentioned. Born in St. Louis, she has studied under the best masters in this country as well as Jean Injalbert, of Paris, and Macmonnies, of Florence. Miss Ogden is particularly fond of relief and architectural work, preferring bronze to marble. "I always think of my work as being eventually put in bronze," she said.

Miss Ogden made the bronze tablet for the battleship St. Paul, and also designed the cover for the "World's Work" magazine. She has had her work exhibited in New York, Philadelphia, and Washington. Among her recent pieces may be mentioned the figure of "Thought," and the relief of "Bacchante," "Keeper of the Tomb," and "Servant, Cease Thy Labor."

## The Emperor of Ethiopia

AND who is the Emperor of Ethiopia? Those who happen to know may consider it an absurdly easy question to answer. But such is the ignorance of things most necessary to know in which our people are sunk, that only a few are aware that Menelik II of Abyssinia has borne that title since 1889. He used to be called the negus, his full title being negus negast, meaning king of kings. The Abyssinian monarch used to be a mere King of Choa. But now he rules the united kingdoms of Choa, Godjam, Djilma, Kaffa and Watamo, with some other provinces. Consequently he is an emperor.

Ancient blood is expected in an emperor, and it is remarkable that he of Abyssinia, the most obscure of the imperial hand, is of the oldest stock of all. At least, that is his claim. Ailu, his father, came of the old royal family of Ethiopia that traced its descent to Menelik I, son of Solomon by the Queen of Sheba. Ailu was eldest son of a great chief named Sella-Selassie, under whom the kingdom of Choa attained to its highest pitch of power. Now Sella-Selassie's own name had formerly been Menelik, but he had been warned by a monk to change it, otherwise he would suffer great misfortune. He should, however, said the monk, call the son of his first born by the name of Menelik, and the child so christened would one day be the conqueror of all Ethiopia and the greatest of her rulers since the days of Menelik I, son of Solomon. As soon, therefore, as the grandson was born he was named Menelik. The really curious thing about this story is that it was certainly told and retailed by an Italian traveler some years before Menelik "conquered Ethiopia" and consolidated his realm.—London Daily News.

## Folding Staircase.

A staircase that can be folded up is the general title of a novelty for carriages and stambos. It is composed of folding steps with hand rails, of any desired length, which makes ascent and descent easy. The device can be easily arranged to serve as a plank to walk from one place to another on the same elevation. It is the kind of thing that would be of great use in the event of fire, and it has the advantage of folding into a small compass.